



the VOICE

OF THE CARMEL RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

CELEBRATING 30 YEARS OF COMMUNITY SERVICE

JANUARY ■ FEBRUARY 2017

JANUARY 17 CRA MEETING

David Shonman: "Carmel's Shoreline: Looking Ahead"

David Armstrong

When David Shonman looks at Carmel Beach, he sees what everyone sees: Drop-dead gorgeous views to Pebble Beach and Carmel Point, a lovely bluff-top walkway fringed by sinewy, wind-sculpted cypresses, the long, narrow, white-sand strand on the edge of Carmel Bay, waves crashing on rock.

He also sees a lot more. Shonman is a coastal biologist. A long-time teacher, researcher and consultant based in Pacific Grove, he has worked on maintaining and improving Carmel Beach and environs for more than 30 years.

When he looks at the beach, he sees an ever-changing shoreline, a challenge and an opportunity. "Carmel Beach is the most changeable of all the city parks," Shonman told *The Voice* during a recent two-hour stroll at the beach. "It changes daily, it changes hourly, it changes all the time."

A distillation of what he has learned, and a preview of how climate change could reshape the beach and the bay, inform an illustrated talk Shonman will give to the CRA and the public at 5 p.m., Tuesday, Jan. 17 in Carpenter Hall. The talk, "Carmel's Shoreline: Looking Ahead," is expected to run 45 to 50 minutes, followed by questions and answers.

Carmel-by-the-Sea's beloved city beach is but lightly studied by scientists. The same goes for Carmel Bay. The bay, Shonman says, encompasses a submarine canyon "perhaps several thousand feet deep," but no one knows exactly how deep. Just how old Carmel Beach is – and what effect decades of charcoal run-off from the beach have had on the bay – are unknown, too.

Shonman focused on Carmel Beach after the epic El Nino storms of 1983 washed

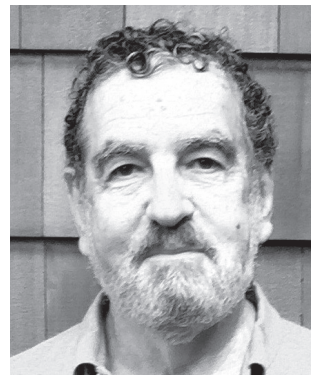
away much of the beach's quartz and feldspar sand. He was a key player on a team that replaced the missing sand, laid out the walkway paralleling Scenic Road, narrowed Scenic and changed it from a two-way street to a one-way road south of Eighth Avenue. All told, the work stretched from 1983 to 1987.

Additionally, Shonman recalls, the city-managed team anticipated future mega-storms by building an on-shore barrier to protect the beach. Three-ton to five-ton boulders backed by 600- to 800-pound core stones and supplemented by filter fabric form a largely unseen bulwark buried beneath the beach. "Some parts go down 20 feet," he notes. More recently, Shonman co-authored a beach assessment that anchors a 2014-2016 update of the city's beach management program.

Strolling along the winding, bluff-top walkway, Shonman points out cracked or crumbling low wooden railings, and illegal "bluff cuts" that circumvent established wooden stairways to and from the beach, pose public safety hazards and funnel water down the face of the bluffs, promoting erosion.

Elsewhere, the sharp-eyed Shonman spies bald spots beside the walkway where 1980s-era landscaping has disappeared over time. New plantings are planned with Pacific Grove landscape architect Scott Hall. He photographs a dangling, broken tree limb; he'll send the photo to city staff. Shonman praises the work ethic of city employees and their openness to practical suggestions for maintaining the beach and its immediate environment.

"It's a very dynamic system. There are things that need to be done at different



times of day, different times of year. We need to keep it looking natural but protect people and protect the shoreline." Most work is done in winter, when tides and rains expose the base of the bluffs.

Climate change complicates the task, says Shonman, who collaborates with oceanographers, geologist/engineers and climatologists to understand this complex global phenomenon. A warming planet and rising sea levels, he says, could endanger Carmel Beach's soft sandstone bluffs, compromise sewer and gas lines, flood and narrow the beach itself, and undercut Scenic Road.

He doesn't specify a timeline in this changing environment, but warns that warming oceans mean more-extreme weather. "As water gets warmer, it actually expands and takes up slightly more room. Warm air above the sea has more moisture." Thus, stronger storms.

Shonman was preparing his talk when *The Voice* spoke to him, but he does confirm this: "For sure, one important element will be, how should the city plan for forces that are not yet fully understood?"

**TUESDAY MEETING
JANUARY 17TH**

**Time: 5:00 pm
Location: Carpenter Hall
Sunset Center**

Free and Open to the Public



MEMORIES OF “The Way We Were”

As the bells rang out the old and rang in the new, CRA members bade a fond farewell to Carmel's celebration of 100 years of memories in 2016 and looked forward to a new year of celebrating CRA's 30th anniversary in 2017. We members take pride in what we've achieved to protect the quality of life in our one-square-mile village.

In reliving the last 30 years, it is sobering to realize how many of the original members are no longer with us. It is even more sobering to realize that we have new generations of members who never knew CRA “originals”, like J.S. (Jim) Holliday, Clayton Anderson, Jim Wright, Jane Mayer, Connie Wright and Harriet Shanner. They had the vision to join with other concerned residents to form the Association that unites us today.

BACK TO THE BEGINNING —

The election of a celebrity mayor, Clint Eastwood, in April 1986, garnered overwhelming and often unwelcome media attention. Many changes were afoot, starting with Eastwood's firing of the Planning Commission.

Soon council meetings became a tourist attraction. Residents couldn't get into packed council meetings and were prevented from hearing what was happening.

Concerned citizens, including Skip Lloyd, J.S. (Jim) Holliday, Ben Heller and retired judge Gordon Campbell met to establish goals to preserve Carmel's village character and quality of life, to develop creative solutions to problems

engendered by the influx of tourists and heightened commercialization and to advance interests of residents, property owners and the business community.

The group's indomitable spirit showed early and loudly. A steering committee, which first met in April 1987, was selected to prepare bylaws, outline goals and start a membership campaign.

The next step was to make CRA's efforts known. We turned to old friends and made new ones. As our voices were heard through town meetings and letters, we attracted more dedicated volunteers--none more so than Linda and Clayton Anderson, who lead a dramatic effort to stop major construction at Vista Lobos Park.

A strong initial board of directors was chosen. They reviewed City agendas, crafted positions on upcoming issues and planned necessary action. An innovative form of outreach was undertaken through “blue sheets”-- position papers that explained CRA arguments and exhorted citizens to appear at City meetings to advocate for essential principles. These blue sheets were distributed by CRA members at such venues as Carmel's iconic Post Office, an important venue of city discourse. (The Carmel Post Office continues to be a major source for distribution of our newsletter, *The Voice* and other items of interest to the community.)

What a great job we have all done to make CRA an organization of stature in Carmel, with activities such as the Beach Cleanup and other community service projects, the Citizen of the Year

Celebrations, contributions such as one for over \$26,000 to the library, public forums, publications, timely meetings and an informative web site.

CRA verifies Margaret Mead's famous quote: “Never doubt that a small group of committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has.”

Most importantly, the CRA is strongly aware that it requires constant vigilance to maintain our way of life and the very culture and natural beauty that have made it possible. It is proud to be the longest-lived citizen organization in the City of Carmel-by-the-Sea; dedicated to its principles:

The Carmel Residents Association is committed to the protection and enrichment of the traditional quality of life in Carmel-by-the-Sea and the preservation of its heritage and natural beauty, through education, community activities and advocacy.

In celebrating our 30th anniversary this year, we look back with nostalgia and appreciation for the idealism and the passion of those men and women who saw the need for and created an association that would effectively represent the interests and concerns of Carmel residents.

And we look forward to continuing their work into the future. To do that we need you, dear reader, to join us or renew your membership in the Carmel Residents Association. Memories of the way we were are not enough to sustain us.

*Source notes for article: Skip Lloyd's history of CRA from “Stories of Old Carmel” and Beth Wright's 20th anniversary article “History of CRA”.

Carmel's Second Century

Talk about your big birthdays!

Carmel-by-the-Sea turned 100 in 2016 with a splendid, year-long centennial celebration. Now, as we head into 2017, the Carmel Residents Association turns 30.

We're proud of our history (*see President's Message, page two*), but the CRA is also a forward-looking organization. For the first issue of the New Year, *The Voice* asked some of the most engaged and informed people in the village - the CRA board of directors - for their take on the challenges Carmel will face in the next 30, even 100, years – and how to address them. Going forward, we welcome comment from the CRA's broad membership, and the general public, as well.

Our board members flagged a number of issues that need addressing in both the short- and medium- term. Among them: the huge tour buses that come lumbering into the village, the proliferation of in-town winery tasting rooms, and the persistent presence of touts outside downtown businesses and standing in open doorways calling out to passersby. Also cited is the need to get the City of Carmel-by-the-Sea fully staffed, the importance of putting teeth into the enforcement of existing laws, and the need to nurture the seriously stressed Carmel Forest during California's punishing drought.

Destination marketing and the crucial importance of 'selling' Carmel in a way that does justice to its village-in-a-forest identity also leads Carmelites' to-do list. Board member Mary Condry comments, "To me, a most pressing need is to stop marketing our village so excessively. The commercial district is like a stampede of people tripping over one another!"

CRA member Maria Sutherland echoes this, adding, "Carmel has been over-marketed to the wrong demographic. From my observation, the overflow of tourists started with the introduction of wine bars. I spoke to a woman from Sonoma who has owned a gallery for 20 years, and she said their wine industry has had the same effect. The demographic changed from higher to lower, and now the price that people will pay for a painting has dropped 50 percent." Over time, that could resonate loudly in Carmel-by-the-Sea, with its estimated 100 for-profit art galleries. If things continue in this direction, Sutherland suggests, Carmel-by-the-Sea may want to follow examples of other places that have become victims of their own success. "Other global tourist destinations ... have decided to limit the amount of tourists, and we should consider the same." Italy's spectacular Cinque Terre on the Amalfi Coast, for example, recently imposed daily limits on the number of visitors.

Board member Dick Stiles adds these concise bullet-point recommendations for City Hall:

1 Hiring

Complete the staff hiring. We need decision-makers with expertise. We have good rules, but lack the staff to properly enforce them.

2 Trees

As always, trees, trees, trees, and other maintenance of our natural habitat.

3 Scout House & Flanders

Scout House, Flanders Mansion. Get them up and running.

4 Beach Fire Experiment

Complete the beach fire experiment. [We need] complete transparency of data. Then, act on it.

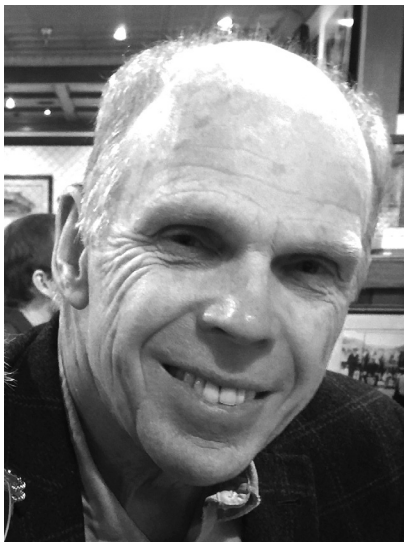
5 Buses and More Buses

Too many buses, with too few legitimate shoppers willing to spend money at all of our businesses.

Ah, tour buses. The behemoths of the freeway unsettle some residents, who suspect that mass tourism could overwhelm the square-mile, erasing its charming character and uniqueness. Board member Ann Nelson suggests action be taken by "regulating the number of large tour buses that come into town. There are as many as eight or nine at a time, overloading our downtown area." More broadly, she calls for active enforcement of quality-of-life laws: "Find a way to cite people who break our laws, especially short-term rental people."

Last but not least, tacky downtown street touts remain a community nuisance – this, despite the fact that City Hall dispatched letters in early 2016 reminding non-compliant businesses to stop soliciting trade on the sidewalks. "If we don't do something about the barker shops, Carmel will fail in general," Maria Sutherland warns. "High-end homeowners, residents, visitors and shopkeepers will leave. It is obnoxious and off-setting on every level."

Carmel-by-the-Sea is not Anyburg USA. About that, we can all agree. Taken together, these calls to action outline the contours of the road ahead in our second century.



Michael, you received your Bachelor's degree at CSUMB in May. We've heard your Senior Capstone Project was particularly interesting.

My major was social behavior science, concentrating on geographic information systems (GIS). I chose this major and concentration because of my interest in urban planning and my long involvement in land use review for the city of Carmel.

The idea for my Senior Capstone Project came from a shoreline assessment workshop a couple of years ago. David Shonman, the biologist who wrote the assessment report, talked about climate change and the impact of sea level rise on Carmel Beach. I realized that my course of study was directly applicable.

I immediately concluded that although climatologists and related scientists were in 95 per cent agreement that climate change was the result of human activity, principally the burning of fossil fuels, the public's denial of climate change was actually increasing. This led to the research question, "What social theory explains the increasing denial of climate change?" I further hypothesized that concern for sea-level rise, a manifestation of climate change, would be higher in a coastal community like Carmel.

To measure the level of concern I conducted a survey of Carmel residents. I also researched the peer-reviewed literature on climate change denial that

Michael LePage

This issue of The Voice celebrates CRA's 30th anniversary. We believe this celebration should not only look to the past, it should also look to Carmel's future. For that reason we wanted the village profile to honor someone who is forever looking to the future. Michael LePage, Carmel Planning Commissioner, CRA Member, and prominent Carmelite, is one of the most forward-looking people we know. Thus, our interview for this profile.

applied social theory to explain the findings. Lastly, I created a GIS map that modeled different amounts of sea level rise for Carmel Beach, assuming various concentrations of greenhouse gases, levels of seasonal high tides and frequency of periodic storm surge.

Although sea level rise was not one of Carmelites' highest-level concerns, respondents were very concerned about some ocean-related environmental threats, particularly ocean plastic pollution. They also acknowledged the need to restructure social institutions because of climate change.

My research also revealed that attitudes regarding climate were based on political ideology rather than science. Climate change denial has been promoted by the fossil fuels industry through financing of surrogate think tanks and conservative political ideologies.

Has your enjoyment of surfing encouraged your interest in environmental issues related to the oceans?

I have spent a good portion of my life pursuing sport activities centering around the wind and surf. Sea level rise and extreme weather are going to affect not only where waves break but also the force of those wave impacts on our shores. Nevertheless, impacts on recreational pastimes such as surfing and sailing could be the least of the changes that are in store.

You have been a member of the Planning Commission for over three years. What are the major challenges this Commission faces?

I also served on Carmel's Design Review Board before joining the Planning Commission. Having been both a building contractor and a building designer has given me a good understanding of building plans. This understanding is invaluable in evaluating land use applications. The biggest challenge for the Planning Commission and Planning and Building Department is maintaining Carmel's unique environment and historical character while dealing with the forces of change faced by any community. Carmel's unique combination of environmental beauty and historical architecture is a poignant combination. Anyone who experiences Carmel's sense of place feels it on an emotional level. Focused environmental and land use planning will determine the future of Carmel.

Rumor has it you are considering the pursuit of graduate work on city planning. Any decisions yet?

I really enjoyed my undergraduate experience. My long-term goal is to pursue a graduate degree in urban planning. This last summer I've been occupied with recovering from a neck injury and settling my late mother's estate. When things get back to normal I intend to pursue my graduate degree.

Thank you, Michael, for answering our questions. Your answers lead us to one conclusion: you are indeed forever looking toward the future.



CHEERS & CHIDES



Cheers & Chides was a popular feature in bygone issues of the newsletter, formerly called the *CRA News*. The feature went away for a while, then we thought it would be useful and fun to bring it back to *The Voice*, beginning with this first issue of the New Year.

SO HERE IT IS: TAKE 2!



CHEERS Three cheers, actually, for everyone who helped create the year-long centennial celebration in Carmel-by-the-Sea that peaked so memorably on Saturday, Oct. 29, 2016. Warm, sunny weather arrived right on cue to help the Centennial Committee and many others produce the day's grand parade, festive lunch at Sunset Center and spirited street dance. Truly, it was the party of the century.



CHEERS to Friends of Mission Trail Nature Preserve for the work they are doing to clear the park of invasive non-native plants and unsightly brush, improve trails and upgrade signage.



CHEERS to the Carmel Fire Department for responding so quickly to a house engulfed in flames on San Carlos on Oct. 30. Thanks to the CFD's efficiency and professionalism, the fire was contained and kept from spreading to trees and neighboring homes. It could have been much worse, but thanks to nimble first-responders, it wasn't.



CHIDES to the city for ignoring the health of its citizens by continuing to permit wood-fueled beach fires, albeit reduced in number, raised off the sand and in temporary abeyance for the winter. Other times of year, the fires are permitted for six hours every day in the

name of tradition, public recreation and inclusivity. Actually, the policy is de facto exclusionary, limiting access to the beach and beach walkway for a sizable number of residents and visitors who have respiratory problems and other serious illnesses, are over age 65 or under age 5. Most critics who spoke out against beach wood fires during public meetings object to the threat posed to human health by particulate matter, a known carcinogen, in wood smoke. Yet the city stubbornly frames the issue in terms of tradition and recreation. Denial-by-the-sea?



CHEERS to the city for budgeting for street repairs, which have been done with minimal disruption to residents, many in the run-up to the Oct. 29 centennial gala. Between aging infrastructure, far-ranging tree roots and multiple motor vehicles pounding the macadam each and every day, keeping our streets smooth and in tip-top shape is a tough job. The city did well on this one.



CHIDES for the lingering pestilence of aggressive street touts along and near Ocean Avenue downtown. While perusing archived issues of the CRA newsletter from 2007, we noted that the barkers/touts/shills were regarded as a problem a full 10 years ago. *Plus ça change*: The more things change, the more they remain the same - until the city moves pro-actively to end this nuisance.



CHEERS to Walt de Faria for producing with the Forest Theatre Guild the charming play "*Abalone*," highlighting the early years of Carmel's legendary bohemians. Written by Bill Broder and directed in staged readings at the estimable Carl Cherry Center for the Arts by MaryAnn Rousseau, this "historical fiction" imagines the real-life first meeting of writer Mary Austin, poet George Sterling and writer and provocateur Ambrose Bierce. The play is rooted in research about Carmel in the early 20th century.



CHEERS to Carmel High's Mock Trial Team who won the Empire Mock Trial World Championship in New York City. It is a highly competitive and selective international competition. Cheers also go to the Carmelites who contributed generously to make the Team's trip possible.



CHEERS to the Harrison Memorial Library for their annual sponsorship of a photography competition for teenagers. The 2016 winner was Tien Cheng (Jack) Shi, a student at Robert Louis Stevenson High School. Dana Zeng, a student at Santa Catalina, won the People's Choice Award. Debbi Li and Victor Sanchez won Honorable Mention. As an observance of Carmel's Centennial, competition entries were to depict a historically significant image. Jack's photograph captured the beauty of Robinson Jeffer's Tower; Dana's depicted a vintage Volkswagon parked in front of a Carmel-cottage style Ocean Avenue shop.

City

NEWS & VIEWS

TWO MISTAKES

Ocean Avenue paid parking kiosks and wood-fueled beach fire devices. Both have vanished, but the fire devices will return.



TECHNOLOGY

The city made significant progress toward rectifying antiquated technology. Some new computers have been installed and networking problems at City Hall and at the library have been solved.

CENTENNIAL TREE

Devendorf Park boasts a new tree—a 20-foot deodar cedar. It was planted as a part of the celebration of Carmel's centennial in a site chosen by the Forest and Beach Commission. Grown by Bonifante Specimen Trees in Gilroy, it was transported on a flatbed truck and carefully planted in its new home.

CENTENNIAL STAMP CANCELLATION

The USPS was on site during the centennial lunch to do an official

Carmel Centennial stamp cancellation. If you were unable to attend the lunch or otherwise missed them, the special cancellations are still available at the Carmel Post Office for \$10.

CENTENNIAL DVD

A 60-minute DVD of the centennial celebration—including the parade, the lunch, and the street dance—is available. It can be purchased at the Carmel Chamber of Commerce and City Hall, or on-line at the Centennial Website for \$19.16 plus tax.

MISSION TRAIL NATURE PRESERVE

The restoration and refurbishing of the Mountain View Entrance to Mission Trail Nature Preserve is essentially completed. The project involved new steps with handrails, landscaping, a split-rail fence and benches. Residents are urged to visit the site and admire the accomplishments.

The Mountain View Entrance project represents only one portion of major plans for the Mission Trail Nature Preserve. Other aspects of the plan are best cited by quoting from one of the City Administrator's Friday Letters: "With the

recent approval of the Mission Trail Nature Preserve (MTNP) Coastal Development Permit, the City is now implementing habitat restoration and invasive species removal in the Preserve. The City's Forest, Parks and Beach Division retained the services of West Coast Arborists (WCA) to implement the first phase of removing invasive plants from the Preserve. Over the last two weeks, WCA has removed trees from the eucalyptus grove on the north side of the Flanders Mansion driveway at 25800 Hatton Road. A number of large and small invasive and non-native trees—primarily eucalyptus and acacias—were removed and their stumps round out to reduce any regrowth in the future. A top dressing of wood chips was applied to reduce dust and retain the soil as the site recovers. Over the next few years, staff will continue to monitor the site for any invasive plants that may appear. The goal is to have the native trees, shrubs, grasses and forbs reclaim the site to enhance natural habitat of the Preserve. Consulting ecologist Nicole Nedeff is the biological resource consultant for this and future projects within the Preserve."

HARRISON MEMORIAL LIBRARY STARS

The Library Journal has once again announced that our library has been awarded a three-star designation. The award is based on achievements in five categories: library visits, circulation, program attendance, public internet terminal use, and electronic circulation. It is one of only 13 libraries in the State of California to be recognized as a "star library". Only one of the state's star libraries surpassed Carmel in per capita circulation (most reported half or less per capita circulation). Our library was first among the state's star libraries in per capita visits. All of which again demonstrates what has been true since we first established a library prior to the city's incorporation—Carmel is a village of readers.

CRA

NEWS & VIEWS

CRA DINES OUT! AT L'ESCARGOT



Mark your calendars for the first CRA Dines Out! of 2017. On Thursday, February 16, at 5:30 P.M., we will be dining at L'Escargot, one of Carmel's oldest and finest restaurants. This will be the third time Chef-Owner Kerry Loutas has hosted a CRA Dines Out and each occasion has been memorable. We have a wonderful menu planned for an evening of delicious food and enjoyable conversation. We'll begin with a choice of soup or salad. Your entrée choices are Roasted Chicken, Short Ribs or Sand Dabs. A vegetarian Ratatouille will be available on request. For dessert, choose between Chocolate Truffle Cake or Meyer Lemon Tart and Coffee or Tea. House Chardonnay or Cabernet will be available for purchase at \$6 a glass. Cocktails will also be available for purchase. Please reserve your place early by sending a check payable to CRA for \$40 with your choice of entrée to Darlene Mosley, PO Box 1135, Carmel 93921 by February 2. We're looking forward to a fantastic evening with neighbors and friends!



**DON'T FORGET!
IT'S TIME TO PAY
YOUR YEARLY
CRA DUES!**

STAR AWARD

At the CRA meeting on January 17 in Carpenter Hall, a Star Award will be presented to Dave Potter. This award recognizes his years of multifold contributions representing Carmel as Monterey County Supervisor for District Five. He also served for many years as a Director of the California Coastal Commission. A longstanding member of CRA, we trust that Dave will continue active participation in village activities. His irrepressible good humor and quick wit have endeared him to our community.

CARMEL TREASURES SALE

The Carmel Treasures Sale is getting bigger and better every year! The 2016 sale on Saturday, November 19 was a resounding success. Despite early threats, the weather cooperated and did not discourage treasure hunters. Ann Pendleton chaired the event. Many people contributed their unused treasures, among them Michael and Joanne LePage, Jon and Judith Wolfe, Darlene and Dave Moseley, Ann Pendleton and Dick Dalsemer. The volunteers who prepared items for sale, priced and marked them, and staff for the sale included Ovilee Kennedy, Denise Otterson, Lynn Ross, Bobbi Wright, Christine Rue, Barbara Livingston, Margi Knowles, Ann Pendleton, Ann Nelson, Barbara Hardy, Vicky Kou and Dixie Smith.

WALKING GROUP

Plans are afoot to organize an early morning walking group. Anyone interested in good companionable exercise should contact Christine Rue at 717-7373.

CONNIE WRIGHT

Longtime CRA members were saddened to hear of the death of Connie Wright, who originated the Old Carmel columns in the CRA News. Fortunately, her columns are collected in *Stories of Old Carmel*, the book published by CRA.

PLANNING AHEAD

CRA will be the principal sponsor of a "Carmel Tourism Forum: Toward Sustainable Tourism" to be held in Carpenter Hall at Sunset Center on Thursday, March 23rd. We are seeking the cooperation of the Carmel Chamber of Commerce, the Carmel Innkeepers Association, Visit California, Sustainable Carmel, Monterey Convention and Visitors Bureau, and Monterey Bay Aquarium. It is believed to be the first meeting of major stakeholders in Monterey Peninsula tourism to which the public is invited. The program will include a main speaker and question-and-answer session. We invite you to come to the forum, listen, question, and speak. Full details will follow in *The Voice's* March/April issue.

CRA COMMUNICATIONS TEAM

Newsletter: Barbara Livingston, David Armstrong, Richard Flower and Tom Parks (*Editorial Panel*), Bonny McGowan (*Design and Production*), Georgina Armstrong (*Proofreader*), Christine Rue and Jon Wolfe (*Photographer*), Carl Iverson and Vicki Kou (*Distribution*).
Other: Kathy Fredrickson (*E-Blast Manager*), Dick Dalsemer (*Email Manager*), and Darlene Mosley (*Dines Out*).

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IN MEMORY OF CONNIE WRIGHT
by Barbara Livingston

CARMEL RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

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The CRA Board wishes to assure our members that we do not sell, trade, lend or in any other way share our mailing list with any organization or company. This list is held in the strictest confidence for our organization's use only.

CRA Invests in the Future: **SUPPORTING THE YOUTH OF CARMEL**

CRA's mission is all about making a difference in the community, and to do that, we look to the future: the youth of Carmel. The CRA supports three Community Service Projects that encourage young people to pursue their dreams in areas that have traditionally distinguished our village.

Every year, Carmel High School faculty select a CHS graduate, preferably a student planning to enter a community services field, who is entering MPC or CSUMB and needs financial assistance. That student is awarded the CRA scholarship.

That's just one of our make-a-difference programs. Every year CRA co-sponsors, with Youth Music Monterey Bay and Chamber Music Monterey Bay, a master



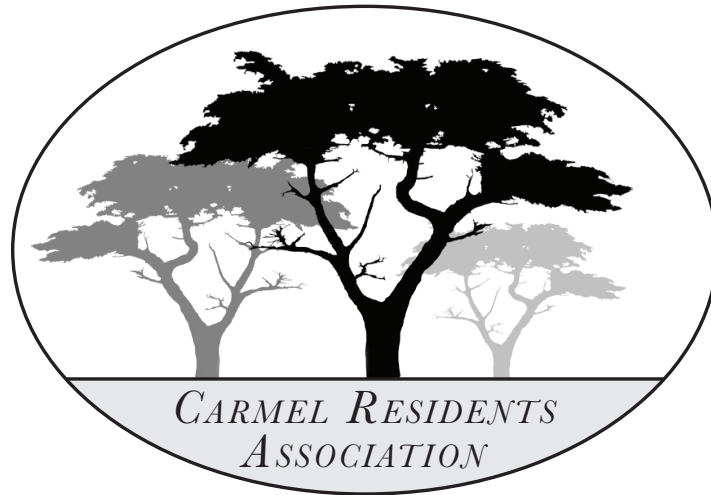
Members of the world famous Juilliard String Quartet conduct a master class for local teenage musicians co-sponsored by CRA, Chamber Music Bay Area, and Youth Music Monterey County.

class for teenage musicians. Master classes tap the talents of nationally renowned chamber musicians such as the Juilliard String Quartet, who work with talented young people to enrich their interpretations of classical music. The master classes are free and open to members of the public, who sit side-

by-side with music educators, local musicians and avid music lovers.

That's not all. Every summer, the children's department of Carmel's public library leads a special program of activities and entertainment aimed at encouraging young people to read and enhancing reading proficiency. CRA provides gift orders for books to reward reading achievements.

These and other community service projects are supported by CRA members who pay \$100 to become Benefactors. Whether you're renewing or joining for the first time, become a Benefactor. It's truly an investment in the future of Carmel.



INVITES YOU TO JOIN US FOR A

**“DOUBLE-HEADER CELEBRATION”
HONORING THE**

**2016/2017
CARMEL CITIZENS OF THE YEAR**

MELANIE BILLIG AND MIKE BROWN

And Saying a Light-Hearted “Welcome Home”
to

SAM FARR

3:00 P.M

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2017
CARMEL WOMAN’S CLUB**

After the ceremonies, join us for a reception with wine and delectable hors d’oeuvres
prepared by a local caterer, and a cake provided by
Magdy Ibrahim of Patisserie Boissiere

FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

THE HONOREES

MELANIE BILLIG



Melanie Billig is a quintessential leader who identifies a need and sets about building a program to meet it. She came to Carmel from San Luis Obispo, where she had served as mayor. She soon became prominent among Carmel's civic leaders. She was appointed to the Planning Commission, became co-founder and president of the local Democratic Women's Luncheon Club, and was elected president of CRA. For many years she has led the Flanders Foundation, the organization devoted to keeping the Flanders Estate within the local park system.

As a Planning Commissioner, she was a major participant in the writing of the Design Traditions Guidelines. The goal was to maintain Carmel's unique residential character in the face of the direct threat of large "mansion-sized" houses that often precluded trees. That document remains an important guide to the Planning Commission, City staff, and the City Council. She chaired an ad hoc committee, appointed by the City Council, to develop a plan for extending the undergrounding of utilities into residential neighborhoods. Although supported by the City Forester and the Public Works Director, the plan was shelved, perhaps to be revived another day.

Melanie has also become a well-informed amateur naturalist. Her guided walks through the Mission Trail Nature Reserve remain memorable experiences for the fortunate participants.



MIKE BROWN

Before Mike Brown retired, he maintained a successful optometry practice in downtown Carmel. As a prominent member of Odello Land Acquisitions Fund, he was one of the leaders in the campaign to protect the Odello artichoke fields from development. He also served on the City Council in the 1970s and 80s. His was the voice of reason during a particularly contentious era in the history of Carmel's city government. For many years, his voice was also heard another way—in the chorus of the Monterey Symphony.

In recent years Mike has been Carmel's most inconspicuous volunteer. Though not a "joiner", when he hears about a need, he steps forward. When Dorothy's Kitchen announced a need for men's clothing, he collected and delivered a supply. When he read that City Councilor Bobby Richards would have a truck at Safeway to collect supplies for the Soberanes fire victims, Mike staffed the truck. He has often nurtured young people and enabled them to travel and pursue higher education. When he heard the Carmel High Mock Trial Team qualified for the national championships in New York City, he led the effort to raise the \$30,000 needed to cover their travel expenses. Year after year he has quietly made contributions like these.

Mike owns a Perry Newberry house that he scrupulously maintains to insure it will be preserved as a token of Carmel's history. Having arrived in Carmel as a seventh grader, graduating from Carmel High, and returning here to live after completing his professional education, he clearly deserves recognition as Carmel's citizen for all seasons.



SAM FARR

Sam Farr has devoted his life to public service. He began that career in the 1960s, as a Peace Corps volunteer in Colombia. (He recently returned to Colombia with Secretary of State John Kerry for the signing of a peace accord.) His first elective office was membership in the California State Assembly. Subsequently, he was elected to Congress in 1993 and held that office until the end of 2016. As a member of Congress, he has been a tireless representative for his Central Coast constituents, notably as a conspicuous advocate for agriculture and organic farming; affordable housing; public transportation; healthcare; veterans and military families; education; and international cooperation, particularly focusing on Latin America.

Among his specific accomplishments are the revitalization of the former Ford Ord, including the development of the CSUMB campus, the Department of Veterans Affairs and Department of Defense Health Clinic and the Veterans' Cemetery. He led successful campaigns to preserve the back lands of Ford Ord as a national monument and to elevate Pinnacles as America's newest national park. Along with authoring the National Ocean Policy, he secured funding for the state-of-the-art research facility in Santa Cruz for the national Marine Fisheries Service.